CLAIMS

1. A method of lysing unwanted, non-malignant cells in a mammal,

said cells having on their surfaces a receptor for a growth factor, and

said method comprising administering to said mammal a cell-lysing amount of a substance characterized in that it has specific affinity for said receptor of said growth factor and has the ability to effect said lysis of said cells.

- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said cells are lymphocytes.
- 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said lymphocytes are T-lymphocytes.
- 4. The method of claim 2 wherein said lymphocytes are B-lymphocytes.
- $\,$ 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said receptor is an IL-2 receptor.
- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said substance comprises an antibody to said receptor.
- 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said substance comprises said growth factor or an analog thereof, linked to a cytotoxin.
- 8. A method of inhibiting the T-lymphocyte-induced rejection of an allograft in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal, following said allograft, a substance characterized in that it has specific affinity for IL-2 receptors on said T-lymphocytes and has the ability either to effect the lysis of said T-lymphocytes, or to interfere with the binding of IL-2 to said T-lymphocytes.
- 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said substance has the ability to effect the lysis of said T-lymphocytes.
- 10. The method of claim 8 wherein said substance is administered when said T-lymphocytes are undergoing, in response to said allograft, a proliferative burst characterized by the presence of said IL-2 receptors on the surfaces of said T-lymphocytes.

- 11. The method of claim 8 wherein said substance comprises an antibody to said IL-2 receptor.
- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
- $\,$ 13. The method of claim 11 wherein said antibody is of the IgG or IgM isotype.
- 14. The method of claim 9 wherein said substance comprises IL-2 or an IL-2 receptor-specific analog thereof linked to a cytotoxin.
- autoimmune disease characterized by the presence of lymphocytes bearing IL-2 receptors, said method comprising administering to said patient a substance characterized in that it has specific affinity for IL-2 receptors on said lymphocytes and has the ability either to effect the lysis of said lymphocytes, or to interfere with the binding of IL-2 to said lymphocytes.